

CLASSIFICATION

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CIA OPERATIONS CENTER

SELECT FOR THE DCI

SUBJECT: U.S. "INTERVENTION" IN GERMAN INTELLIGENCE Time Stamp

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SAVA, OCI (4), C/OPSCEN, CSDO, PDB, INDICO, ORR/CSS, RAD, SDO  
ADDED:

STAT

FBIS 80

U.S. 'INTERVENTION' IN GERMAN INTELLIGENCE

EAST BERLIN ADN DOMESTIC SERVICE IN GERMAN 1655 GMT 5 SEP 67 L

(TEXT) BONN--IT HAS NOW BEEN LEARNED THAT THE CIA HAS INTERVENED DIRECTLY IN THE SELECTION OF A SUCCESSOR TO THE POST OF HEAD OF THE WEST GERMAN SECRET SERVICE. THE U.S. SECRET SERVICE STATED ITS WISHES "IN A SUITABLE FORM--FIRMLY AND EMPHATICALLY" ON THE OCCASION OF THE LAST VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES BY CHANCELLOR KIESINGER AND HIS FOREIGN MINISTER, BRANDT.

THE UNDERLYING ASSUMPTION WAS THAT THE PRESENT SECRET SERVICE CHIEF IN KIESINGER'S OFFICE, LIEUTENANT GENERAL GEHLEN, WHO IS 66, IS DUE FOR RETIREMENT AS "MINISTERIALDIREKTOR" IN THE SPRING OF 1968 AT THE LATEST. CIA DIRECTOR RICHARD M. HELMS IS SAID TO HAVE MADE IT KNOWN TO CHANCELLOR KIESINGER THAT THE CIA WANTED LT. GEN. GERHARD WESSEL OF THE FEDERAL ARMED FORCES TO BE GEHLEN'S SUCCESSOR.

IN THE FASCIST SUPREME ARMY COMMAND, WESSEL WAS GEHLEN'S DEPUTY AND WAS IN CHARGE OF THE ANTI-SOVIET ESPIONAGE AND DIVERSIONIST DEPARTMENT "FREMDE HEERE OST." FROM 1947 TO 1955 HE HELD A LEADING POST IN THE CIA-DIRECTED AND -FINANCED "GEHLEN ORGANIZATION." TODAY GENERAL WESSEL IS THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FEDERAL ARMED FORCES ON THE WASHINGTON MILITARY COMMITTEE AND COOPERATES CLOSELY WITH THE CIA.

05 SEP 2200Z JD/CT